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LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

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BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, May 23, 1972

10:00 o'clock a.m.

JERRY G. JONES, Chairman

Wild Life and Fisheries
Building
400 Royal Street
New Orleans, Louisiana



Helen R. Dietrich, Inc.

Stenotypists

333 ST. CHARLES AVENUE, SUITE 1221
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70130 • (504) 524-4787

P R O C E E D I N G S

. . . The Board Meeting of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission convened at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on Tuesday, May 23, 1972, at the Wild Life and Fisheries Building, 400 Royal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, Jerry G. Jones, Chairman, presiding. . . .

PRESENT WERE:

J. G. JONES, Chairman
H. C. WRIGHT, Vice-Chairman
C. M. HOFFPAUER, Director
L. J. AUTIN
J. THOMPSON

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A G E N D A

RICHARD K. YANCEY:

1. Approval of survey of boundary of Pearl River Wildlife Management Area. (4)
2. Approve purchase of 25-acre Veith Tract to add to Pearl River Management Area. (6)
3. Present request of Richard Bryan, Jr., Louisiana Wildlife Federation, concerning (19)



watershed projects in Louisiana.

KENNETH SMITH:

- 4. Consideration of lease with Cities Service Oil Company for fifteen acres to be added to the Monroe Fish Hatchery. (25)
- 5. Assignment of fish and wildlife values. (27)

JOE HERRING:

- 6. Leasing additional land for Union Parish Game Management Area. (52)

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Calcasieu Lake fishing restrictions. (53)
- Discussion of oyster leases. (58)
- Introduction of Hurley Campbell. (63)
- Relocation and replacement of Cheniere Lake dam. (64)
- Reminder of June meeting in Alexandria. (66)
- ADJOURNMENT. (67)

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THE CHAIRMAN: The meeting will come to order. The first order of business, Mr. Yancey.

MR. YANCEY: Mr. Chairman, Members of the Commission, we would like to recommend that you authorize a survey of the boundary of the Pearl River Wildlife Management Area over in St. Tammany Parish.

Of course, the Commission acquired title to that property last December and some additional tracts have been added since then. We need to have it surveyed in order that the boundaries can be properly delineated and marked. The Department of Public Works obtained bids for the surveying of this boundary and the low bid indicates that the price will be around \$25,000.00. Now that tract is about 16-1/2 thousand acres in size. The survey would be supervised and the contract issued by the Department of Public Works to the low bidder. This is Gilbert and Pilcher, Consulting Engineers in Baton Rouge.

We would recommend that you all authorize the survey of that tract. We have approval of the Division of Administration to use money from this



year's appropriation for this project, to have the survey made.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. THOMPSON: So move.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Thompson.

MR. AUTIN: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Autin. Is there any discussion? Any objection?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(Text of the resolution
is here made a part of
the record.)

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Works had received bids for an engineering survey of the newly acquired Pearl River Wildlife Management Area in St. Tammany Parish, and

WHEREAS, the low bid was submitted by Gilbert and Pilcher, Consulting Engineers in Baton Rouge, in the



amount of \$25,000.00, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commission does hereby authorize and request the Department of Public Works to issue a contract to Gilbert and Pilcher for a survey of the Pearl River Wildlife Management Area, and that the Department of Public Works supervise the work of the contractor, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the cost of the survey not be allowed to exceed \$25,000.00 without specific concurrence of the Department of Public Works.

THE CHAIRMAN: No. 2.

MR. YANCEY: A 25-acre tract of land located adjacent to the south boundary of the Pearl River Wildlife Management Area has been offered to the Commission for sale at a price of \$82.50 per acre by Mrs. Miriam Smith. We have funds available yet in this appropriation to acquire this property and we would like to



recommend that you all authorize that we go ahead and purchase this 25-acre tract a price of \$82.50 an acre. Peter Duffy would handle the legal work for us on this transaction.

MR. THOMPSON: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Thompson. Is there a second?

MR. WRIGHT: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Wright. Is there any objection?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(Text of the resolution
is here made a part of
the record.)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild
Life and Fisheries Commission is greatly
interested in establishing additional
wildlife management areas in Louisiana;
and

WHEREAS, the Commission
initiated a program of land purchase
in 1961 to accomplish this purpose

and to preserve at least a portion of the State's largely disappearing game ranges in various regions of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislature has appropriated the necessary funds to establish a major wildlife management area in St. Tammany Parish during the fiscal year, July 1, 1971-June 30, 1972; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission has in great measure completed this project by acquiring, or making arrangements to acquire, several tracts of land in the lower Pearl River Basin and establishing same as the Pearl River Wildlife Management Area; and

WHEREAS there is a vital need for acquiring a highland site on the west bank of the West Pearl River which can be developed into a parking area and boat ramp with convenient road access



from United States Interstate 10, which will be available for use by the public; and

WHEREAS, the best site for development has been determined to be the following described immovable property:

All that certain lot or parcel of land lying and being situated in Section 38, Township 8 South, Range 15 East, 8th Ward, St.

Tammany Parish, Louisiana, more fully described as follows:

Commencing at the Section corner common to Sections 31 and 38, Township 8 South, Range 15 East, and Sections 6 and 38, Township 9 South, Range 15 East, go East a distance of 593 feet to a point; thence go South 27 degrees East, a distance of 845 feet to a point; thence go South 17 degrees, 50 minutes East, a distance of



1635.5 feet to a point; thence go North 49 degrees, 45 minutes East, a distance of 2164.9 feet to a point of beginning.

Thence from the point of beginning go North 49 degrees, 45 minutes East a distance of 1257 (plus or minus) feet to a point along West Pearl River; thence go along said river South 40 degrees, 15 minutes East, a distance of 240.13 (plus or minus) feet to a point; thence go South 49 degrees, 45 minutes West, a distance of 1118.37 (plus or minus) feet to a point; thence go North 70 degrees, 15 minutes West, a distance of 277.28 feet back to the point of beginning.

Said parcel contains approximately 6.628 acres.

All in accordance with Survey No. 7781 dated March 9, 1972 and revised March 30, 1972, by J. V.



Burkes, C. E.

Being part of the same property acquired by Gus A. Fritchie by purchase from George M. Cox by act passed before E. F. Hailey, Notary Public, dated July 29, 1947 recorded in C.O.B. 179, Folio 251, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana.

WHEREAS, the foregoing immovable property has been appraised by Frank J. Patechek, Appraiser, at TWENTY-SIX THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED (\$26,500.00) DOLLARS and can be purchased from the current owners for the full and true sum of TWENTY-SIX THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED (\$26,500.00) DOLLARS; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission purchase from the owners of the said immovable property Onnie Mae Pearch Fritchie and the Fritchie heirs the immovable property hereinabove described for the price and sum of TWENTY-SIX THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED



(\$26,500.00) DOLLARS cash. The said sale is to be subject to the following conditions and stipulations:

1. Real Estate Taxes for the year 1972 will be prorated to the date of the Act of Sale. All proper and necessary mortgage and other certificates and tax researches are to be paid by Sellers.
2. Sellers shall deliver to Buyer good and merchantable title to the property. However, if Sellers are unable to deliver a good and merchantable title, this agreement shall be considered null and void and Buyer shall not be entitled to demand from Sellers any damages by virtue of Sellers' inability to deliver good and merchantable title. The decision as to whether Sellers' title to the property is good and merchantable shall rest solely with Buyer based upon title



opinions rendered to Buyer by attorneys of its selection. Sellers agree to assist Buyer and his attorneys in securing any curative matter which Sellers may be able to obtain in order to satisfy any requirements of any title opinion rendered to Buyer; however, Sellers shall not be obligated to expend any monies in connection with the satisfaction of such requirements. All curative matter thus obtained shall be the property of Buyer who is hereby authorized after passage of the Act of Sale to file same for record. Final approval of title shall be at the sole discretion of Buyer and its attorneys and Buyer shall have the right to waive and forego satisfaction of any requirements of any title opinion rendered by its attorneys



hereunder. In the event of partial failure of title, Buyer may, at its option, elect to purchase that portion of subject property as to which title has been approved or waived, in which event the purchase price shall be reduced at the rate each acre to which title has failed bears to the whole; provided, that should such partial failure of title affect 10 percent or more of the subject property, Sellers may, at their option, refuse to make such partial sale.

3. The Act of Sale is to be passed before Buyer's Notary at the State Capitol, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on or before June 30, 1972. Notice of the desired time of passing the Act of Sale shall be given to Sellers by Buyer at least thirty (30) days prior thereto so that a mutually satisfactory closing



date may be agreed upon. The sale shall be with full warranty and full rights of subrogation and substitution and shall be in a form acceptable to Sellers and Buyer. The property shall be delivered free and clear of all liens, encumbrances and taxes.

4. Sellers shall reserve unto themselves, their successors and assigns in perpetuity an imprescriptible mineral servitude covering and affecting all the minerals in, on or under the above described property of every nature whatsoever, including but not limited to, oil gas, sulphur, salt (including salt brine) and all other minerals whether similar or dissimilar. It is understood that all mineral operations on the above described property shall be subject to reasonable regulations by Buyer



for the use of the surface.

5. In the event Buyer fails to comply with this agreement within the time specified, Sellers, without formality beyond tender of title to Buyer, may declare this agreement null and void, or Sellers may, at its option, demand specific performance.
6. In the event that Sellers fail to comply with this agreement within the time specified, Buyer may, at its option, either declare this agreement null and void or demand specific performance.
7. Occupancy shall be available to Buyer at the time of the Act of Sale.
8. This agreement and the sale contemplated hereby is subject to and conditioned upon the approval of the Governor of the State of Louisiana and/or Division of



Administration.

9. Sellers certify that the provisions of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policy Act of 1970 has no application because no person will be displaced when title is transferred to Buyer.

10. The notices, payments and other matters required hereunto shall be delivered or addressed to Sellers at an address furnished by them to Buyer, and to Buyer, Attention: Mr. Clark M. Hoffpauer, Director, Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Building, 400 Royal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130, or at such other address or addresses as Sellers and Buyer may designate by written notice. This agreement shall be binding upon and shall inure to



the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective heirs, successors, executors, administrators and assigns. Where the terms "Sellers" and "Buyers" are used herein, they shall be deemed to include the respective heirs, successors, executors, administrators and assigns of such parties.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Messrs. Jerry G. Jones, Chairman; H. Clay Wright, Vice-Chairman; and Clark M. Hoffpauer, Commission Director, be, and they are hereby appointed, authorized and empowered to act for and on behalf and in the name of this Commission to purchase the aforementioned lands, buildings and improvements and appurtenances thereon, to sign any and all necessary deeds and documents in connection therewith, to pay the purchase price thereof and all pertinent and necessary and usual expenses to purchaser which said deeds



and documents may contain, and to incorporate and include in the said documents and add all additional stipulations, conditions and provisions as they, in their sole discretion, deem to be to the best interest of the Commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the event that the foregoing sale cannot be negotiated then, in that event, this Commission exercise its authority to expropriate this immovable property for inclusion in the Pearl River Wild Life Management Area.

THE CHAIRMAN: No. 3.

MR. YANCEY: We also have a request from Rick Bryan of the Louisiana Wildlife Federation. It pertains to the soil conservation watershed projects in Louisiana. We, of course, have been working with the Soil Conservation Service on these watershed projects ever since February of 1971. There have been some additional memoranda issued out of their Washington office and as a result of the enactment of this National



Environmental Policy Act of 1970, which somewhat changes the rules under which this program is being carried out.

Our people have been going into the field and working with them in modifying some of these watershed work programs to lessen the adverse effects that the work programs would have on fish and wildlife. Some five of these watershed projects have been modified to lessen these damages and have been placed in a classification, a Group One Classification, which indicates little or no adverse effect to fish and wildlife.

The Soil Conservation Service is in the position, of course, of filing environmental impact statements on these projects. We would like to recommend that the Commission authorize the Director to forward a letter to Mr. J. B. Earle, who is the state conservationist for the Soil Conservation Service in Alexandria, asking that he file this environmental impact statement on all of the watershed projects that are planned in the future. This then will result in a review of these impact statements by all who want to comment on



them, in addition to the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission.

We would recommend that you all authorize this.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. THOMPSON: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Thompson. Is there a second?

MR. WRIGHT: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Wright. Is there any discussion? Any objection?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(Text of the resolution
is here made a part of
the record.)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild
Life and Fisheries Commission has
cooperated with the United States Soil
Conservation Service in conducting fish
and wildlife evaluations of a number of
watershed projects since February of



1971, and

WHEREAS, this has resulted in some modifications being made in the work plans of several of the watershed projects, which would lessen the adverse effects to fish and wildlife, and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wildlife Federation has now recommended that the Commission request the Soil Conservation Service to file environmental impact statements on all projects approved but not completed, and that the Commission take no future position relative to the placement of any additional watershed projects in Group I as defined in SCS WS-108,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby authorize the Director to forward the following letter to the State Conservationist for the United States Soil Conservation Service in Alexandria, recommending that they



file environmental impact statements on
watershed projects:

May 23, 1972

Mr. J. B. Earle, State Conservationist

P. O. Box 1630

Alexandria, Louisiana 71301

Dear Mr. Earle:

This regards your letters
of May 12 and 17, 1972, acknowledg-
ing our previous assistance and
requesting our future help in
resolving watershed project problems.

As a result of the cooper-
ation we have shown and our action in
agreeing to your reclassification of
projects placed in Group II under
Watershed Memo 108, we have been sub-
jected to severe criticism from
another quarter. Conservation
groups are as quick to tell us that
our actions are too passive in the
face of environmental damages, as



watershed sponsors are to tell us that our evaluations have been too high. It has been called to our attention that our inter-agency review of these projects completely eliminates the general public from the review process. We are reminded that this evades the intent of the National Environmental Policy Act. It also appears to circumvent the intent of your agency's Watershed Advisory 12. In order to share the responsibility of decision-making on these public projects, I feel that you should prepare an environmental statement along the guidelines published by the Council of Environmental Quality for each of these remaining projects.

As time permits we propose to continue to work with you in identifying damaging project features and to assist you in finding ways to



eliminate, reduce or mitigate damages. We will also provide whatever information we have that may be useful to you in preparing these statements.

I greatly appreciate your recognition of the considerable amount of work my staff has performed in these reviews.

Sincerely yours,

Clark M. Hoffpauer,
Director.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Dick. Kenneth.

MR. KENNETH SMITH: Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission, we have for consideration a lease with the Cities Service Oil Company for 15 acres of property adjacent to the Monroe Fish Hatchery on which we would propose to construct additional hatchery ponds. The lease is for a period of 25 years. It is a free lease and in view of the much needed space for additional ponds in this area, I would recommend that the Commission approve of the Director entering into this agreement with Cities Service.



THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. WRIGHT: I so move.

MR. THOMPSON: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Thompson. Is there any discussion? Any objection?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(Text of the resolution
is here made a part of
the record.)

WHEREAS, the Cities Service Oil Company has offered for lease to the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission a 15-acre tract of land, for a period of 25 years, and

WHEREAS, this lease is being offered without cost to the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, the owners reserving the right to sell during this 25-year lease period, and

WHEREAS, there is an urgent



need for additional hatchery pond space in the Monroe area,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Director of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission be authorized to enter into a land lease agreement with the Cities Service Oil Company for a 25-year period beginning April, 1972, and ending April, 1997.

MR. SMITH: In view of the need to determine or to assess values to the various fish and wildlife species and fur involved in many of the projects which affect these species that the Commission has to review and report on, we have a great need of this assessment of these values which have been worked up by the various divisions of the Commission, primarily the Fish and Game Division and the Fur Division. We would like to recommend that, in order to properly evaluate these projects, the Commission approve the list that has been prepared by these divisions to determine these values on the various wildlife species.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have in front of you



all of the values which are recommended. What is your pleasure?

MR. AUTIN: I move we accept the recommendation.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Autin that we accept the recommendation. Is there a second?

MR. THOMPSON: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Thompson. Is there any discussion? Any objection?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(Text of the resolution
is here made a part of
the record.)

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need to formally adopt values for game, fish and fur species in Louisiana in order to assess wildlife gains and/or losses associated with projects affecting these resources, and

WHEREAS, a set of values, as set forth in a list attached hereto,



has been developed by the various divisions after consideration of all available surveys pertaining thereto, as well as the expert judgment of participating wildlife biologists,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,
that the Louisiana Wild Life and
Fisheries Commission adopt these values
as presented in the attachment.

(See following pages
30-51, inclusive, for
values.)



MEMORANDUM

TO: Division Chiefs

FROM: A. W. Palmisano, PhD Biologist, Fur Division

SUBJECT Economic Value of Louisiana Fur-bearing animals and alligators

At the request of Mr. Joe L. Herring, Chief of the Fish and Game Division, a monetary value for fur-bearing animals and alligators should be made. The market value of the pelt and meat represents only part of the value of the animal. For purposes of this report, the current price of the pelt is considered approximately one-half the replacement value.

Muskrat	\$ 3.00/ animal
Mink	10.00
Nutria	6.00
Raccoon	5.00
Opossum	2.00
Otter	40.00
Skunk	2.00
Fox	6.00
Bobcat	10.00
Beaver	10.00
Alligators	6.00/foot

A. W. Palmisano, PhD
Biologist, Fur Division

Mr. Kenneth C. Smith
Asst. Chief, Fish and Game Division
Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries Commission
P. O. Box 44095 Capitol Station
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

Dear Kenneth:

Larry and I have studied the results of the survey we sent out earlier. Many states have assigned no monetary value to their wildlife, others use values that were set by legislative act. A few apparently have resulted from economic surveys and appear to be the cost of bringing a particular unit of game to bag.

In the case of deer, quail and doves we can use some locally gathered information to assign reasonably accurate figures. According to the 1968-69 Louisiana Deer Kill Survey it took 24.2 efforts to bag a deer. By applying this to the U.S.D.I., 1965 National Economic Survey figure of \$9.55 expenditure per big game hunting trip, we get a cost to kill (value) of \$231.11 per animal. We suggest that this figure be used until such a time as Louisiana comes up with a more precise estimate.

A quail survey following the 1956-57 season provides us with an estimate of \$4.38 as the cost of bagging each quail. Since this cost has undoubtedly increased by inflation, we would like to suggest that a value of \$6.00 per quail be used.

A survey of dove hunting in Louisiana following the 1966-67 season estimated the partial cost of killing a dove to be approximately \$1.00. Since only shell and travel costs are included in this estimate, a true value is probably nearer \$2.00. We suggest the use of this figure.

By applying the \$4.79 estimated by the U.S.D.I. as the per day cost of small game hunting to our hunter success estimates from our small game kill survey of 1968 we can compute a cost of bagging rabbits at \$2.99 each and squirrels at \$2.66 each. We suggest the adoption of these figures as the values of these animals for the time being.

Attached is a table showing the values assigned by the various states who responded to our questionnaire with useable information. You will note a considerable range in estimated values.

For turkey, bear, ducks and geese we are without a base from which values can be computed. This Commission should set their own values within the range of values established by other states. We suggest \$10.00 for ducks and blue and snow geese, \$15.00 for white-fronted geese and \$50.00 for Canada geese. In view of our current and recent stocking expenditures on turkey and bear we feel that a turkey is worth \$250.00 and a bear should be valued at \$500.00.

Coots, rails, gallinules, snipe, woodcock and black francolin are worth varying amounts. Using only our previously suggested values and some general ideas gleaned from a study of the economic surveys available to us we suggest the following: Coots, rails, gallinules and snipe should be valued at \$2.00 each. Woodcock should be \$4.00 and black francolin \$15.00.

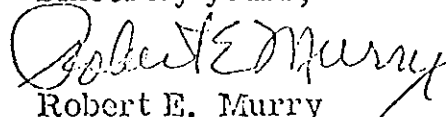
Raccoons in their role as game animals should be worth \$3.00.

The following is a summary of our suggestions of the value of various Louisiana game birds and animals:

Deer	\$231.11
Bear	500.00
Turkey	250.00
Bobwhite	6.00
Mourning dove	2.00
Squirrel	2.66
Rabbit	2.99
Snipe	2.00
Rail	2.00
Gallinule	2.00
Coot	2.00
Duck	10.00
Blue or Snow Goose	10.00
White-fronted Goose	15.00
Canada Goose	50.00
Black Francolin	15.00
Raccoon	3.00

We will be happy to discuss these suggestions with any interested persons.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert E. Murry".

Robert E. Murry
Asst. P-R Coordinator

REM/lp
Attachment

cc; Mr. Larry Soileau

	<u>New Jersey</u>	<u>Tennessee</u>	<u>Arizona</u>	<u>Georgia</u>	<u>Nebraska</u>	<u>Florida</u>
Deer	\$736.00	\$650.00	\$410.22	\$400.00	\$300.00	\$277.00
Quail	23.79	2.00	1.58	2.00	25.00	1.44
Squirrel	15.78	2.00	1.58	1.01	25.00	2.40
Turkey	-	650.00	410.22	64.00	25.00	191.00
Rabbit	15.18	2.00	1.53	.89	25.00	-
Bear	-	650.00	410.22	600.00	-	-
Ducks	-	11.00	27.52	4.95	25.00	3.85
Geese	-	11.00	27.52	10.00	25.00	-
Doves	-	2.00	1.58	1.81	5.00	1.44
	<u>Washington</u>	<u>Virginia</u>	<u>Missouri</u>	<u>Michigan</u>	<u>New Mexico</u>	<u>Wisconsin</u>
Deer	\$141.00	\$100.00	\$64-100.00	\$100-200.00	\$ 50.00	\$25.00
Quail	3.41	3.00	-	5-10.00	10.00	-
Squirrel	-	1.00	-	5-10.00	-	2.00
Turkey	-	25.00	-	100-200.00	10.00	-
Rabbits	2.89	1.50	-	5-10.00	-	-
Bear	50.00	75.00	-	100-200.00	100.00	-
Ducks	4.07	3.00	-	5-10.00	10.00	2.00
Geese	-	15.00	24.00	5-10.00	10.00	-
Doves	1.06	3.00	-	5-10.00	10.00	-
	<u>RANGE</u>					
Deer	\$25.00 to \$736.00					
Quail	\$1.44 to \$25.00					
Squirrel	\$1.00 to \$15.78					
Turkey	\$10.00 to \$650.00					
Rabbit	\$.89 to \$15.18					
Bear	\$50.00 to \$650.00					
Duck	\$2.00 to \$27.52					
Geese	\$5.00 to \$27.52					
Doves	\$1.06 to \$10.00					

Monetary Value of Fish in Louisiana

Since the output of a sport fishery is fishing, rather than fish, the market value of the fish caught is not relevant, though it does establish an irreducible minimum figure. The fact that hundreds of thousands of people choose to spend more than four million angler days in the State of Louisiana fishing rather than buying fish at the local market is an indication that the market value of fish is not a proper measure of its economic importance to sportsmen.

An estimate of a gross value of sport fishing can be gotten by the average expenditure by fishermen on all goods and services required to carry on sport fishing for a year. This is still incomplete, since no charge is made for the right of access to the fishery.

In 1965, the U. S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife made an intensive national survey of fishing and hunting. In part, this survey showed that approximately 24 million sport fishermen spent over two billion dollars, for an average of \$89.00 per person.

In 1966-67, the valid fishing licenses issued in Louisiana totaled 293,329. As Louisiana does not have a universal fishing license requirement, the actual number of fishermen, in round figures, totals approximately 450,000. If a cost of living increase is added to the 1965 national average, the average fisherman will have spent \$100.00 in 1969, for a total value of 45 million dollars.

The above figures are conservative, and deal only with expenditures by sport fishermen. Not included are estimates of the rising values of

natural resources. Drainage, construction projects, increased population, expanding industry and other considerations will serve to reduce the numbers of available fish and to increase fishing pressure on those remaining. The actual value of recreational fishing will have to be revised upward on a recurring basis in the future.

Valid monetary values must be placed on fish when losses caused by pollution of waters are to be recovered. A national survey made by the Tennessee Game and Fish Commission in 1966 indicated that many states had not assigned specific values to fish by species. It was apparent that only token fines or damage payments were assessed in the few cases that were brought into court. It is equally apparent, in the foreseeable future, that public reaction will demand restitution for the actual value of fish by numbers and species.

The value of commercial fish in Louisiana in 1966 was \$39,666,185.00. This figure represents the value to the commercial fishermen of both fresh and salt water fish. Salt water fish are considered in this report because of the increasing danger of pollution in seas and estuaries. These areas, often over-looked, are vital to the fisheries economy in Louisiana.

Methods of Deriving Costs

Each fish, or group of fish, was considered in relation to its total value in the fishery. Fish which are not considered sport fish were assessed as to their value as predators, as forage fish, as biological controls, as scavengers, as rare, endangered or unusual species or as fish which are used as bait. It is recognized that all fish have a place and value in the

ecosystem. Many of these fishes are so poorly known or studied that it is impossible to accurately assess their value. In these instances minimal values are used.

Sport fish were considered primarily as to their relative popularity, their value as predators and/or forage fish, and the relative cost of raising each species in state hatcheries for the replacement of extirpated or reduced fish populations.

It was felt that more accurate estimates could be made on some species by assessing per-pound values. This was applied to fish with both sport and commercial value. All factors considered in the cost summary are listed below.

1. Publication - Monetary Values of Fish - Published by Tennessee Game and Fish Commission (these figures were based on averages of values assigned by all states contacted) 1966.
2. Publication - Louisiana Landings - Bureau of Commercial Fisheries (Data based on actual values of fishes on the dock to individual commercial fishermen) an annual report.
3. Publication - Mississippi Landings - same as above
4. Publication - Gulf Coast Landings - same as above
5. Louisiana Creel Census - Many publications over a period of 15 years on over 20 lakes in the state. (These data were used to establish catch rate fishing pressure, and gear cost)
6. Rearing Costs in Hatchery - Based on actual production records in our three Louisiana hatcheries, Monroe, Beechwood, Lacombe.
7. Biologists' experience both technical and personal - This is a judgement value based on the combined biological experience (over 100 man years) of our professional staff.
8. Biennial Reports - Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission - actual values to the fishermen of fish actually caught and sold within the state.
9. Value as a Predator - This value is based on the necessity of controlling nuisance fish populations. If sufficient predators are not present, the cost of artificial (chemical or physical) control must be considered.
10. Forage fish - Value based on its utilization for food by sport fish.
11. Rare, Unusual or Endangered Species - This is primarily an aesthetic value but is also based on the desirability of reestablishing these species in the Louisiana fauna as sport or commercial fishes.
12. Scavenger - As all water bodies have dead animals and plants present scavenger fishes are absolutely essential to the well being of the entire ecosystem. Values assigned are based on their efficiency.
13. Bait Species - This is essentially the value assigned by the live bait fisherman, in essence what will he pay for bait.
14. Biological Control - Values here are based on the fishes ability to be an effective control agent for undesirable plant or animal pests (i. e. mosquitoes, plankton, aquatic vegetation)
15. Popularity - This value is only useful in relation to other values. However it is an attempt to recognize and evaluate the preference of people for one fish over another (i. e. sport or food).

Cost Summary - Freshwater Fish

Below each fish, or group of fishes, numbers correspond to factors enumerated above indicating those considerations affecting their value.

Petromyzontidae - lampreys

10	\$0.08/fish
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Acipenseridae - sturgeons

1, 11, 12	\$6.01/fish
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Polyodontidae - paddlefishes

1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12	\$0.20/lb.
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Lepistosteidae - gars

1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 9	\$0.16/lb.
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Amiidae - bowfins

1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 9	\$0.14/lb.
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Clupeidae - herrings

Shad (all)

7, 10, 13, 14	\$0.05/fish
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Hiodontidae - mooneyes

10	\$0.05/fish
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Esocidae pikes

Grass pickerel

1, 7, 9, 10	\$0.52/fish
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Chain pickerel

1, 7, 9, 15	\$1.31/fish
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Cyprinidae-minnows and carps

Carp

1, 2, 4, 12, 14	\$0.14/lb.
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Others (minnows, chubs shiners and goldfish)	
7, 10, 13	\$0.04/fish
Catostomidae - suckers	
Buffaloes, carpsuckers (all)	
1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 12	\$0.21/lb.
Blue sucker	
7, 10, 11	\$2.00/fish
Others (quillback, chub- sucker and redhorses)	
10	\$0.17/fish
Ictaluridae-freshwater catfishes	
Blue catfish	
1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 15	\$0.43/lb.
Bullheads (all)	
1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 10	\$0.32/fish
Channel catfish	
1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 15	\$0.45/lb.
Madtoms (all)	
10, 12	\$0.10/fish
Flathead catfish	
1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 15	\$0.54/lb.
Anguillidae - freshwater eels	
1, 10, 12	\$0.37/fish
Cyprinodontiade - killifishes	
10	\$0.04/fish
Poeciliidae-livebearers	
Sailfin molly	
10, 11	\$0.18/fish

Others (least killifish and
mosquitofish)

10, 14 \$0.04/fish

Syngnathidae-pipefishes and seahorses

Pipefish

10, 11 \$0.52/fish

Aphredoderidae - pirate perches

10, 11 \$0.06/fish

Serranidae - sea basses family

White bass

1, 5, 7, 9, 15 \$2.80/fish

Yellow bass

1, 5, 7, 9, 15 \$1.37/fish

Striped bass

1, 6, 7, 9, 11, 15 \$54.17/fish

Centrarchidae - sunfishes

Rock bass

1, 7, 10, 11, 15 \$1.23/fish

Flier

7, 10, 11, 15 \$0.75/fish

Pygmy, Dollar and
Bantam sunfish

7, 10 \$0.14/fish

Longear, green, spotted,
orangespotted sunfish and
warmouth

1, 5, 6, 7, 10, 15 \$0.72/fish

Spotted bass

1, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 15	\$4.24/fish
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Largemouth bass

1, 5, 6, 7, 9, 15	\$4.52/fish
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Crappie (both)

1, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 15	\$0.85/fish
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Percidae - perches

Darters (all)

7, 10	\$0.21/fish
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Sauger

7, 9, 11	\$1.70/fish
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Walleye

1, 6, 7, 9, 11, 15	\$9.75/fish
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Sciaenidae - drums

Freshwater drum

1, 2, 4, 12, 15	\$0.22/lb.
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Atherinidae - silversides

10, 13	\$0.04/fish
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Cost Summary of Saltwater Fish
(Commercial Values-2, 3, 4, 8)

Lamnidae - mackerel sharks

Mako	\$100.00/fish
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Sharks (other species)	\$.05/lb.
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Pristidae - sawfishes	\$.06/lb.
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Elopidae - tarpons

Lady fish \$. 25/fish

Tarpon \$100. 00/fish

Clupeidae - herrings

Largescale menhaden \$. 014/lb.

Scaled sardine \$. 03/fish

Atlantic thread herring \$. 03/fish

Shad (all species) \$. 04/lb.

Engraulidae - anchovies

Bay anchovy \$. 03/fish

Striped anchovy \$. 03/fish

Synodontidae - lizardfishes

Inshore lizardfish \$. 15/fish

Ariidae - sea catfishes

Gafftopsail catfish \$. 50/fish

Sea catfish \$. 10/lb.

Ophichthidae - snake eels

Speckled worm eel \$. 15/fish

Shrimp eel \$. 15/fish

Belonidae - needlefishes

Atlantic needlefish \$. 15/fish

Hemiramphidae - halfbeaks

Halfbeak \$. 25/fish

Cyprinodontidae - killifishes

Sheepshead minnow \$. 05/fish

Golden topminnow	\$. 05/fish
Marsh killifish	\$. 05/fish
Gulf killifish	\$. 05/fish
Longnose killifish	\$. 05/fish
Rainwater killifish	\$. 05/fish
Poecillidae - livebearers	
Mosquitofish	\$. 05/fish
Sailfin molly	\$. 15/fish
Gadidae - codfishes and hakes	
Southern hake	\$. 10/fish
Syngnathidae - pipefishes and seahorses	
Offshore seahorse	\$. 25/fish
Dwarf seahorse	\$. 25/fish
Chain pipefish	\$. 05/fish
Gulf pipefish	\$. 05/fish
Serranidae - sea basses	
Rock sea bass	\$1. 50/fish
Jewfish	\$. 08/lb.
Black grouper	\$. 07/lb.
Gulf grouper	\$. 07/lb.
Scamp	\$2. 50/fish
Wreckfish	\$1. 00/fish
Soapfish	\$. 50/fish
Lobotidae - tripletails	
Tripletail	\$. 07/lb.

Lutjanidae - snappers

Red snapper	\$. 28/lb.
Gray snapper	\$. 28/lb.
Lane snapper	\$. 28/lb.

Pomatomidae - bluefishes

Bluefish	\$. 10/lb.
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Rachycentridae - cobias

Cobia	\$. 04/lb.
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Carangidae - jacks, scads, and pompanos

Blue runner	\$1. 50/fish
Crevalle jack	\$5. 00/fish
Horse-eye jack	\$5. 00/fish
Bumper	\$. 25/fish
Rainbow runner	\$1. 50/fish
Leatherjacket	\$. 35/fish
Lookdown	\$. 25/fish
Greater amberjack	\$50. 00/fish
Pompano	\$. 65/lb.
Permit	\$25. 00/fish
Atlantic moonfish	\$. 25/fish

Coryphaenidae - dolphins

Dolphin	\$50. 00/fish
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Gerridae - mojarras

Mojarras (all)	\$. 25/fish
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Irish pompano	\$. 25/fish
Pomadasyidae - grunts	
Pigfish	\$. 25/fish
Sciaenidae - drums	
Silver perch	\$. 30/fish
Sand seatrout	\$. 079/lb.
Spotted seatrout	\$. 28/lb.
Silver seatrout	\$. 079/lb.
Banded drum	\$. 25/fish
Spot	\$. 05/lb.
Southern kingfish	\$. 12/lb.
Gulf kingfish	\$. 12/lb.
Atlantic croaker	\$. 07/lb.
Black drum	\$. 059/lb.
Red drum	\$. 18/lb.
Star drum	\$. 25/fish
Sparidae - porgies	
Sheepshead	\$. 06/lb.
Pinfish	\$. 15/fish
Ephippidae - spadefishes	
Atlantic spadefish	\$1. 00/fish
Trichiuridae - cutlassfishes	
Atlantic cutlassfish	\$. 10/fish
Scombridae - mackerels and tunas	
Wahoo	\$300.00/fish

Atlantic bonito	\$25. 00/fish
King mackerel	\$25. 00/fish
Monterey Spanish mackerel	\$. 08/lb.
Spanish mackerel	\$. 08/lb.
Cero	\$6. 00/fish
Albacore	\$50. 00/fish
Yellowfin tuna	\$300. 00/fish
Blackfin tuna	\$300. 00/fish
Bluefin tuna	\$300. 00/fish
Istiophoridae - billfishes	
Atlantic sailfish	\$500. 00/fish
White marlin	\$500. 00/fish
Blue marlin	\$500. 00/fish
Xiphiidae-swordfishes	
Swordfish	\$1, 000. 00/fish
Eleotridae - sleepers	
Fat sleeper	\$. 05/fish
Spinycheek sleeper	\$. 05/fish
Gobiidae - gobies	
Bridled goby	\$. 05/fish
Lyre goby	\$. 05/fish
Violet goby	\$. 05/fish
Darter goby	\$. 05/fish
Sharptail goby	\$. 05/fish

Highfin goby	\$. 05/fish
Spottail goby	\$. 05/fish
Naked goby	\$. 05/fish
Clown goby	\$. 05/fish
Green goby	\$. 05/fish
Triglidae - searobins	
Blackfin searobin	\$. 05/fish
Bighead searobin	\$. 05/fish
Uranoscopidae - stargazers	
Southern stargazer	\$. 15/fish
Blenniidae - combtooth blennies	
Striped blenny	\$. 05/fish
Florida blenny	\$. 05/fish
Feather blenny	\$. 05/fish
Freckled blenny	\$. 05/fish
Ophidiidae - cusk-eels	
Crested cusk-eel	\$. 15/fish
Stromateidae - butterfishes	
Southern harvestfish	\$. 25/fish
Butterfish	\$. 25/fish
Sphyraenidae - barracudas	
Great barracuda	\$50. 00/fish
Guaguanche	\$5. 00/fish

Mugilidae - mullets

Striped mullet	\$. 03/lb.
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White mullet	\$. 03/lb.
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Atherinidae - silversides

Rough silverside	\$. 05/fish
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Tidewater silverside	\$. 05/fish
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Polynemidae - threadfins

Atlantic threadfin	\$. 05/fish
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Bothidae - lefteye flounders

Ocellated flounder	\$. 25/fish
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Bay whiff	\$. 10/fish
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Fringed flounder	\$. 10/fish
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Gulf flounder	\$. 15/lb.
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Southern flounder	\$. 15/lb.
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Fourspot flounder	\$. 25/fish
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Soleidae - soles

Lined sole	\$. 05/fish
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Hogchoker	\$. 05/fish
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Cynoglossidae - tonguefishes

Blackcheek tonguefish	\$. 05/fish
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Echeneidae - remoras

Sharksucker	\$1. 00/fish
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Remora	\$1. 00/fish
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Gobiesocidae - clingfishes

Skilletfish	\$. 25/fish
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Balistidae - triggerfishes and filefishes

Orange filefish	\$. 35/fish
Spotted triggerfish	\$. 35/fish
Queen triggerfish	\$. 35/fish
Orangespotted filefish	\$. 35/fish

Ostraciidae - trunkfishes

Cowfish	\$. 50/fish
Trunkfish	\$. 50/fish

Tetraodontidae - puffers

Southern puffer	\$. 25/fish
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Diodontidae - porcupinefishes

Striped burrfish	\$. 15/fish
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Molidae - molas

Sharptail mola	\$50. 00/fish
Ocean sunfish	\$50. 00/fish

Batrachoididae - toadfishes

Gulf toadfish	\$. 25/fish
Atlantic midshipman	\$. 25/fish

Lophiidae - goosefishes

Goosefish	\$. 50/fish
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Antennariidae - frogfishes

Ocellated frogfish	\$. 50/fish
Sargassunfish	\$. 50/fish

Ogcocephalidae - batfishes

Shortnose batfish	\$. 25/fish
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Cost Summary Saltwater Fish (Sport Values)
Actual cost to sport fishermen for species listed as derived from creel census

Species	No. Captured	% Total No. of each species captured	Average No. of each species captured per trip	Cost for Average No. Of each species captured per trip	Cost per each fish
Land seatrout	50,381	25.9%	2.8	\$3.50	\$1.25
Spotted seatrout	78,650	40.0	4.4	5.40	1.23
Southern kingfish	3,172	1.6	0.2	0.22	1.10
Atlantic croaker	52,056	26.7	2.9	3.60	1.24
Black drum	958	0.5	0.06	0.07	1.17
Red drum	5,491	2.8	0.3	0.38	1.27
Sheepshead	377	0.2	0.02	0.03	1.50
Spanish mackerel	143	0.1	0.01	0.01	1.00
Southern flounder	3,616	1.9	0.2	0.26	1.30

TOTAL 194,844

11.00

\$13.50

Total No. of fishermen estimated
in creel survey = 17,550

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Herring.

MR. HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have one item. Olinkraft of West Monroe has offered an additional 887 acres of land to be added to our Union Parish Wildlife Management Area. The lease period on this is the first day of June of 1979, and the lease is free of charge and would be under the same stipulations as the present agreement that we have on our Union Parish Game Management Area.

I would recommend to the Commission at this time that we accept this 887 acres as an addition to the Union Parish Wildlife Management Area.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. WRIGHT: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Wright. Second?

MR. AUTIN: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Autin. Is there any discussion? Any objection?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.



(Text of the resolution
is here made a part of
the record.)

WHEREAS, Olinkraft of West
Monroe has offered to the Louisiana
Wild Life and Fisheries Commission 887
acres of land, and

WHEREAS, this 887 acres joins
the Union Parish Wildlife Management
Area, and

WHEREAS, this lease is free of
charge and will extend until the first
day of June, 1979, and

WHEREAS, this lease will be
under the same agreement as the present
lease,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED
that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission accept this 887 acres as an
addition to the present Union Parish
Wildlife Management Area.

THE CHAIRMAN: The Commission has
received objections from numerous sports fishermen



in Calcasieu Lake, where people are using gill nets up to 1,500 feet to encircle redfish and speckled trout. The Calcasieu Rod and Gun Club and the Benton Rod and Gun Club have requested that the Commission take some type of action to impose some restrictions upon this phase of commercial fishing. We, of course, got some complaints from other portions of the State.

I would certainly recommend that we take some type of action. As I understand it, Doctor, we would be authorized to close Calcasieu Lake to net fishing, with certain limitations, would we not?

DR. ST. AMANT: That's right, Mr. Chairman. You have the right and this Commission has taken action in other areas to close them to netting, gill netting, and any type of fishing activity that the Commission deems is in the best interest of the fishing industry and recreational fishing for people of the State. I would assume that if you would like to restrict Calcasieu Lake to recreational fishing, it would be no problem.

MR. THOMPSON: Why don't you, rather than restrict it to recreational fishing, limit the



length of the nets, put everybody on an equal footing, an equal basis?

DR. ST. AMANT: Well, in that case, the size of the trawl can be limited. The size that was mentioned was 100 feet, so in that instance, then I would recommend that no seine or gill net or trammel net in excess of 100 feet be used in Calcasieu Lake.

MR. WRIGHT: I would make a motion to that effect.

THE CHAIRMAN: I understand what you are moving is that we are going to restrict it for all trammel nets, gill nets, and seines above the length of 100 feet, or combinations of nets, where a person can't come in -- you have a hundred foot net and he will have another hundred foot net and he will hook them together. Either one or a combination of nets.

MR. THOMPSON: That's right, but are you --

THE CHAIRMAN: No, we are not restricting shrimping.

MR. THOMPSON: Are you restricting them to a single net 100 feet long?



THE CHAIRMAN: 100 feet long. He can't combine two hundred-foot nets.

DR. ST. AMANT: He can't combine them but can he fish two of them separately?

THE CHAIRMAN: Well, you have the problem, for example, if he puts them five feet apart.

DR. ST. AMANT: I am just raising a question.

THE CHAIRMAN: I would think where you restrict him to 100 feet of netting, period, because otherwise he can combine nets and he can have a fifteen hundred foot net.

DR. ST. AMANT: But he might want to set one at the upper end of the bay and one at the lower end. Now is this illegal for him to have two nets?

MR. HOFFPAUER: Two 50-foot nets.

THE CHAIRMAN: As far as I am concerned, if we are going to restrict him to 100 feet, that's the way he's going to have it, 100 feet.

DR. ST. AMANT: All right. Then you limit him to a total of 100 feet of netting operated by any licensed individual in Calcasieu Lake.



That's what we are talking about.

MR. THOMPSON: Or combination of individuals.

THE CHAIRMAN: Or combination of individuals with nets together. You and I, Doc, are not going to go out there and put our two nets together.

MR. WRIGHT: That's right, or four or five nets together.

MR. THOMPSON: They can't form a consortium on it.

DR. ST. AMANT: No, I just think that when you word the Commission action, it is going to have to be so worded that it would be very clear from the enforcement standpoint.

THE CHAIRMAN: I agree with you.

DR. ST. AMANT: I think this will have to be worked out.

MR. THOMPSON: Should that not then be one 100-foot net per boat? That eliminates seven buddies getting on there and having 700 feet of net.

THE CHAIRMAN: Then they bring seven



boats.

DR. ST. AMANT: Well, you have seven fishermen. You can't just restrict it to one fisherman to the lake, now.

THE CHAIRMAN: I agree with you.

DR. ST. AMANT: If you've got 100 fishermen out there legally, they can fish with a 100-foot net each. Now how close they get together, it is going to be real difficult to --

THE CHAIRMAN: Why don't we just see how they interpret it and we will look at it again next month, then.

MR. WRIGHT: O.K.

DR. ST. AMANT: One 100-foot net.

THE CHAIRMAN: One 100-foot net per person.

DR. ST. AMANT: Per individual.

MR. THOMPSON: Per person per boat.

THE CHAIRMAN: Then we'll see what happens. And I would think that our agents should inform those fishermen that are there what we have done and give them an opportunity to get their nets out and be nice to them.



You have heard the motion. Is there a second to it?

MR. AUTIN: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Autin. Is there any discussion? Any objection?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

Anything else, Doctor?

DR. ST. AMANT: Dick got's one, and you had a question.

MR. HOFFPAUER: Yes. For the record and also for the Board's information and my information, in dealing with oyster leases, a request for an oyster lease. Let's say, theoretically and hypothetically, I have a request for 150-acre oyster lease. I would send it into the Commission. How would that be handled?

DR. ST. AMANT: Well, you can't send it in that way. You are supposed to appear in the office and examine the Commission maps and indicate to the people in our mapping section where you might be interested in leasing. At that time we examine the map to determine whether there is any



other interest there. In other words, whether there are other leases in existence, or any other type of restriction that might prevent leasing in this area. Assuming that the area is not in use by anyone else, and assuming that the water bottom is satisfactory for the purpose of growing oysters, then you make an application, and in the application you describe the area as best you can, on the map.

It may simply say, "I would like to lease 100 acres more or less between the mouth of a certain bayou and a certain point along the shore," or something like that, on the north shore of a bay. This application is then put into the files and you pay an application fee. At the same time you pay a survey fee and you are given an application number. You then may go out and stake claim to this application. Put a pole up and put a number, so no one else will apply for it.

This does not give you a legal right at that time to exercise any use of the area, any more than anybody else in the public. It just indicates that you intend or have applied for the



area. Then we send out a survey team.

Now this has been one of our problems over the years. Theoretically, these survey teams ought to be out there the next Monday, but they usually don't make it for from anywhere from a month to six months or longer, depending upon the volume of work we have and the weather conditions. But when they do go out to survey, you are supposed to reappear at the site and you stake off your corners. We don't. You stake exactly what you want. We survey then the plot in that you want and use your corner posts and other markers.

Then this data is brought back into the office, where it is calculated. It is plotted on a plat and the acreage is calculated. At that time it may be more than 150 acres or less, but it should be somewhere in the vicinity that you claim. The lease is then signed by the chief of the division. It is signed by you. It is then sent to the man and it is recorded in the parish. It becomes then an official lease and he is required then to pay a dollar an acre on it.

Up until the time that that lease is



signed, he does not pay a dollar an acre rent and it is not a legal document. The lease is good for 15 years, with an option to renew. It may be sold or it may become a part of an estate, like any other property.

MR. HOFFPAUER: Do you, say, pro-rate or predetermine the size of leases in, let's say, a thousand acre lake? You would only give 50-acre leases or 150-acre leases?

DR. ST. AMANT: No. There is a limit per person of 1,000 acres, but many people have more than this because it is easy to get around it. Somebody else in the family can get it or some brother can have it or brother-in-law, and more than that, the law is bad because frequently people will have leases in the family and they will become a part of an estate. You may have a very valuable oyster lease and someone dies and the person that inherits it may already own some oyster leases. The law would expect him to drop 1,000 acres, and this might be like giving up a gold mine. So what is generally done is that they transfer the ownership to somebody else to make



it legal.

What is the problem?

MR. HOFFPAUER: I have had several people ask me, within the last month, and within the last week a couple of them have said, "I have applied, say, for 150-acre lease," and they only get, say, 43 acres. "So and so applied for a lease in the same area. He only applied for 50 acres and he 48."

DR. ST. AMANT: Well, if it's that close, there's no argument. We give them after we calculate the thing. You go out and just stake it off, you may think you have 50 acres and you may actually have 75. The man is going to be restricted to what is available, but assuming he stakes it properly and makes a proper application, he will get what he applies for.

Now, I wouldn't be certain; you may have to check with the people back there; but I do think that if you go out here and apply for 50 acres and you end up staking off three or 400 hundred acres, they may make you reduce it, but as long as you are within five or ten acres of what you applied for,



you get it, without any trouble.

MR. HOFFPAUER: Well, anyway, they are going to be here this afternoon.

THE CHAIRMAN: I knew something was coming.

MR. HOFFPAUER: At this time I would like to introduce Hurley Campbell. Hurley, would you stand up, please? Hurley is the new executive assistant to the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission and he will be working with the Commission on the administrative level. Hurley has a lot of experience in the wild life field and the outdoor writing field, and as soon as we get him settled, you will see some of the things he will be doing with The Conservationist and working with personnel and so forth.

Hurley, we are glad to have you with us.

MR. CAMPBELL: Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any other business to come before the Commission?

MR. YANCEY: Mr. Chairman, we have received a request from Mr. Hobson Norris, one of our former Commissioners, that this Board adopt a



resolution --

MR. THOMPSON: Dick, may I butt in?
That request is from Jerry Brantley.

MR. YANCEY: Jerry Brantley?

MR. THOMPSON: Yes.

MR. YANCEY: All right. That our Commission adopt a resolution, endorsing the fact that action would be taken to relocate and replace the Cheniere Lake dam. Now Cheniere Lake is located just northwest of Monroe. It is a man-made impoundment and occupies some 3,500 acres and the dam was installed there, I believe, back in the late 30's. The water control structure in the dam is in a very sad condition. It is antiquated. It is obsolete. It is in need of replacement.

We would also feel that, in the event that money can be made available to replace this dam, that it be relocated further downstream, so that the Lake would be enlarged by some twelve or 1500 acres and perhaps make it possible to increase the water depths on the Lake.

We would recommend that you all approve a resolution that would endorse an action being



taken to replace and relocate the Cheniere Lake dam.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation.

MR. THOMPSON: So move.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Thompson.

MR. WRIGHT: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Wright.
Any further discussion? Any objection?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(Text of the resolution
is here made a part of
the record.)

WHEREAS, the Cheniere Lake dam located in Ouachita Parish is in very poor condition and in need of replacement, and

WHEREAS, this man-made impoundment provides a tremendous amount of recreational opportunity for the sportsmen in the Monroe area, and



WHEREAS, the recreational needs could be better satisfied by enlarging the size of the Lake through the construction of a new dam and spillway below the existing facility,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby endorse the need for action being taken in the construction of a new dam for Cheniere Lake at a suitable site southeast, or further downstream from the existing dam, and that the necessary land be acquired for this purpose.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Dick.

MR. WRIGHT: Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to remind you of the meeting next month in Alexandria. I think you ought to remind anybody who has any gripes on the season and bag limits to be sure and be there.

THE CHAIRMAN: We will meet Thursday evening. What is our schedule up there?

MR. HOFFPAUER: At the Ramada Inn.

MR. WRIGHT: Well, we meet Thursday at



Spring Bayou.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is there any other business? If not, the meeting is adjourned.

. . . Thereupon, at
10:30 o'clock a.m.,
Tuesday, May 23, 1972,
the meeting was
adjourned. . . .

Kathryn G. Chamberlin,
Reporter.

